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HGG-A-891

**CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE AS SANITIZED**

Lincoln

Chief of Station, Guatemala

K Program

Oscar Eduardo CONDE Garcia

APR 9 1954
INFO: Chief, WHD

References: HULA-361; GUAT 315

In reply to the request for traces contained in reference (1), the following information is submitted:

Subject is owner-director of Radio Universal and well known for attacks against Communism and exposures of political irregularities on his newscast Radio Sucesos. He is believed to be friendly to the U.S. and an anti-Communist. He has long been connected with anti-Communist activities including the Agrupación Civica de Defensa Social (1947), the Union Nacional Electoral (1948), and the Partido Unificación Anticomunista since its inception.

He has visited the Embassy seeking support for an anti-Communist radio program (he brought a tape recording of a sample program which the USIA classified as being "very, very poor") on one occasion, and, in February 1954, funds to enable him to attend the Caracas Conference (See attachment). He was detained by the police in connection with his alleged public efforts to solicit funds for his Caracas trip but did depart for Caracas. He was arrested at the airport on his return to Guatemala and is currently being held by the authorities. In a statement made on 7 April 1954, he said he expected to be released shortly and completely absolved since contributions he received were made spontaneously and all his actions had been public knowledge and within the law.

The USIA officer who interviewed him in connection with the above-mentioned requests states that subject's reputation among Guatemalan newspaper and radio people is not good; that his outspokenness has gained for him the animosity of many Guatemalans; that he is shrew rather than intelligent, and that he is not believed trustworthy.

Any further information which we may obtain will be forwarded to Lincoln as soon as possible.

8 April 1954

Clara M. Heagey

CMH

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